



Minutes
Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting
 August 9-11, 2018 – Olympia

August 9-11, 2018 Meeting

Attendance

Commission:

Larry Carpenter
 Kim Thorburn
 Barbara Baker
 Dave Graybill
 Don McIsaac
 Jay Kehne
 Bob Kehoe
 Jay Holzmilller

Commission Staff:

Tami Lininger

Department Staff:

Kelly Susewind, Director
 Joe Stohr, Deputy Director
 William Frymire, AGO
 Nate Pamplin
 Ron Warren
 Eric Gardner
 Bill Tweit
 Raquel Crosier
 Julie Sandberg
 Ryan Lothrop
 Donny Martorello

Amy Windrope
 Erik Neatherlin
 Craig Burley
 Kyle Adicks
 Kelly Cunningham
 Jeff Davis
 Terra Rentz
 Tim Burns
 Kyle Spragens
 Stephanie Simek
 Candace Bennett

Scott McCorquodale
 Melinda Posner
 Cynthia Wilkerson
 Cindy LeFleur
 Steve Pozzanghera
 Ben Maletzke
 Dan Brinson
 Anis Aoude

Public:

Denis DeSilvis
 Nancy Brown
 Ron Garner
 Randy Good
 David Linn
 Jim Knowles
 Gail Ganley
 Arron Scotten
 Harriet Allen
 Elizabeth McManus
 Tom Gallegos

Larry Bucklin
 Jim Tuggle
 John Risser
 Bill Schmidt
 Dave Duncan
 Senator Curtis King
 Sarah Ryan
 Scott Brown
 Paula Sweeden
 Brynn Brady

Ilene Le Vee
 Tom Drews
 Steve Shanewise
 Tom Davis
 Jeff Dawson
 Molly Linville
 Lynn Okita
 Linda Saunders
 Amaroq Weiss
 Lance Winecka

William Brown
 Dave Reese
 Diane Gallegos
 Don Wallace
 Paul Lubbesmeyer
 Paul Rudnick
 Shawn Cantrell
 Quinn Read
 Bob Alverson
 Gary Edwards

Thursday, August 9, 2018 – Capitol Room – DoubleTree Hotel, Olympia

Vice-chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

1. 2019 - 2021 Capital Budget Request

Tim Burns, Assistant Director, Capital and Asset Management Program, briefed the Commission and requested approval of the 2019-2021 Capital Budget proposals.

Commissioner McIsaac moved, seconded by Commissioner Kehne to approve the 2019-2021 Capital Budget request as presented, allowing for minor adjustments to project scope, priority and budget, unless alterations are approved by the Commission under agenda item 2. Motion passed.

2. 2019 – 2021 Operating Budget Proposal and Legislative Proposals

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison presented the Commissioners the Operating Budget, Legislative Proposals and Long-term Funding Plan.

Commissioner Kehne highlighted the topics from the Wildlife Committee:

Overview of lands showcase and the recreational strategy
Recreational Strategy
Corn pond baiting
Skagit elk
Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse

4. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Senator Curtis King – Naches Hatchery	Bill Schmidt – elk damage
Randy Good – elk damage	Jim Tuggle – salmon release policy, regulations
Don Wallace – banding American Dippers	David Linn – defending wildlife
Paul Rudnick – reclassify frogs	Laurence Bucklin – Point no Point, website, delegation
Molly Linville – trust re: wolf management	Dave Duncan - trust re: wolf management
Jeff Dawson - trust re: wolf management	Tom Davis – wolf collar data, pinniped, Skagit elk
Shawn Cantrell – wolves	Arron Scotten – wolves, range riders, ranchers
Sarah Ryan – grazing on 4-O, Riparian mgmt., trust re: wolves and elk	

5. Director’s Report

The Director provided a written report and briefly discussed various topics and meetings.

6. Land Transactions

Julie Sandberg, Real Estate Section Manager and Amy Windrope, Region 4 Director briefed the Commission and requested approval for the acquisition of property in Whitman County and a transfer in Skagit County.

The following person provided testimony:

Paul Lubbesmeyer

Commissioner Thorburn moved, seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the transactions as presented. Motion passed.

7. Annual Wolf Update – Briefing

Donny Martorello, Wolf Policy Lead, Candace Bennett, Wildlife Conflict Specialist, Scott McCorquodale, Wildlife Regional Manager and Ben Maletze, Biologist presented an approach to analyzing the scientific literature as Washington changes its management as wolves recover. Wolf Advisory Group Members Dave Duncan, Molly Linville and Paula Sweeney requested some guidance from the Commission on the next steps.

Director Susewind explained that he heard from both the community and staff about proposed changes to wolf location data that the department shares with livestock producers. It was clear that more time was needed before implementing further changes, especially since it is the middle of grazing season. He and staff decided that no further changes to information sharing will occur during the current season and that the conversation will be continued.

Commissioner Holzmilller made a motion to provide policy guidance to the Director to not implement the “Blue Blob” method as a replacement of providing wolf presence information to those who use this information to minimize wolf-livestock interactions, currently scheduled to be implemented in the near future. Direction was given to continue to use the current information along with the “Blue Blob” through the balance of this season. Commissioner McIsaac seconded the motion and it passed.

8. Executive Session

The Executive Session was cancelled.

Habitat Committee meeting-Commissioners Kehne, Kehoe, Baker, Thorburn

Location: Olympia Room-Doubletree Hotel, Olympia

Agenda Topics

- Priority Species and Habitats
- Update on Gold and Fish rule-making processes

9. North Pacific Fishery Management Council – Briefing

Bill Tweit, Special Assistant presented an update from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

The following person provided public testimony:
Bob Alverson

Commissioner Kehoe would like to take a look at updating the Policy and asked the Director to send a letter to the Council regarding enacting regulations regarding the observer program which are consistent with the changes to the observer program that were previously approved by the Council.

10. Delegation of Authority - Discussion

This item was postponed until September.

11. 2019 – 2021 Operating Budget and Legislative Proposals – Follow Up and Possible Decision

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director and Raquel Crosier, Legislative Liaison provided additional information and requested approval of the proposed packages.

Commissioner Thorburn moved seconded by Commissioner Graybill to approve the following items:

- **2019 second supplemental operating budget**
- **the long-term funding plan**
- **reduced fees for disabled hunters and fisher legislative proposal**
- **extension of the Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Program legislative proposal**
- **increasing participation in recreational fishing and hunting legislative proposal**

All were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Graybill made a motion to remove the Naches Hatchery from the operating budget cut list and add it back to the maintain list, Commissioner Kehne seconded the motion, Commission McIsaac moved to amend the motion to move the entire \$2.4M cut list to the maintain list. Amendment motion failed.

Commission Graybill's main motion all were in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Thorburn moved to approve the 2019-21 Operating Budget with Maintenance and Performance items included, Commissioner Baker seconded. Commissioner McIsaac moved to amend the main motion regarding hatchery production enhancements, Commissioner Holzmilller seconded – after discussion the

motion was withdrawn and staff were directed to come back at a later date with more details.

The main motion made by Commissioner Thorburn passed.

Commissioner McIsaac made a motion to set the across the board fee increase at 5% and include bullets 1 - Admin fee collected on next purchase and 4 - future inflation fee-setting authority, Commissioner Kehne seconded it and the motion passed.

Vice Chair Carpenter recessed the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Saturday, August 11, 2018 - Capitol Room – DoubleTree Hotel, Olympia

Vice Chair Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:56 a.m.

12. Future Meeting Planning

Commissioners discussed the Year at a Glance, 2019 meeting dates and locations, and upcoming conference calls and meetings.

13. Open Public Input

The following people provided input on various topics:

Denis DeSilvis – uplist grouse

Laurence Bucklin – Point no Point, Puyallup Hatchery

Jim Tuggle – Deschutes Hatchery recovery plans

14. Pinniped Briefing – Briefing, Public Hearing and Commission Guidance

Nate Pamplin, Policy Director provided a briefing on pinniped management.

The following people provided testimony:

Laurence Bucklin

Tom Drews

Dave Reese

John Risser

Ron Garner

Commissioner McIsaac moved to provide the following policy position on pinniped management:

Based on the information on record at this time, and until such time as there is a more equitable balance between the population abundance status of pinniped species and ESA-listed wild salmonid populations in the State of Washington, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission advocates for authorization of greater flexibility in the management of pinniped populations in Federal and State legislation, towards a goal of significantly reducing pinniped predation on salmonids. Further, the Commission tasks the Director with expeditious and efficient implementation of any flexibility forthcoming from successful passage of such legislation.

This policy position applies to the Columbia River, coastal river basins, and Puget Sound including the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Flexibility in management activity should include a priority to actively discourage pinniped residence in areas of salmonid predation, including effective harassment and lethal removal, both done in a humane manner that discourages residence and predation behavior.

Commissioner Graybill seconded. Motion passed.

15. Miscellaneous and Meeting Debrief

Commissioner Kehne thanked the Commissioners and staff for everything.

Commissioner Thorburn moved to request a briefing from staff on Pronghorn Conservation and Management. Commissioner Kehoe seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Commissioners asked Director Susewind to take a fresh look at what's going on with the boat launch at Point no Point.

Vice-chair Carpenter adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

These minutes plus the audio recordings constitute the full minutes.

Tami Lininger, Executive Assistant